

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE HELD ON 7TH JANUARY 2004**

PRESENT

Mr. Gray presided over Mesdames Harrison and Collins, Messrs. Mackin, Fisher and Leith.

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes and Mr. Steeples.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

03/01775/FULL

Two storey side extension and single storey porch, detached double garage and workshop.

61/63 New Street.

No objection

03/02173/FULL

First floor rear extension

23 Bedford Road

No objection:- Reservations on neighbour's loss of light. Mid Beds D C asked to investigate and plan a site meeting.

03/02192/FULL

Erection of two, two storey semi detached dwellings with one detached double garage.

34a High Street and land at rear of 32 High Street

Object:- Bad access to site-entry to and from High Street. Overcrowding.

03/02237/FULL

Erection of five covered trolley bays.

Somerfields store, St Francis Way.

No objection.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission

03/02051/FULL

Rear conservatory.

Pelms, 10 Powells Road.

5. PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE – BLACK SWAN

Letter from Licensing Enforcement Officer of Mid Beds D C stating that as there were insufficient evidence to support the grounds for objections raised by the Town Council and as no other objections had been received generally then the licence was granted.

6. BLOOMFIELD GAMES ASSOCIATION

Reply received from Mrs Lorna McGregor in answer to questions raised by the Council in respect of the need for contact details to be displayed in order that groups know the appropriate procedures and personnel when trying to make a booking. Mrs McGregor's letter underlined the fact that the facilities are only available to 'clubs' and not individuals and pointed out that there are details on the Shefford website. The Council is to ask Mrs McGregor for an A4 sized sheet to display in the Council Chamber window giving the relevant information.

7. REPORT – DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MEETING

Mrs Holmes e-mailed a report detailing a Development Control meeting she attended at the District Council offices in Ampthill on 22nd December-namely in respect of 03/00878/OUT and 03/01921/FULL. Enquiries to be made relating to 03/00878/FULL as to why the decision to approve was made as the proposed building is on flood plain and would appear to be ill-advised.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Harrison gave an update on various areas in the town, namely Kingsmede, Duck Lane and the roundabouts. With regard to the roundabouts it is expected that the County Council will be sending 'a planting scheme' to the Town Council in the near future.

It was noted that the area in and around St Michael's Church and the Conservative Club are in a poor state and requires tidying up.

The Town Sign has become loose in it's sleeve thus causing it to move around in it's socket. A suggestion of placing a wedge in the slot was suggested or failing that then possibly to bolt it in place. A final suggestion was made of having the support post made of recycled plastic. This is to be discussed at the Services and Maintenance Committee meeting.

An offer of a free sack of garlic has been made to the Town Council with a view to passing this on to the Shefford Saints F C to assist with the attempted removal of the moles on the Millenium Green football pitch. The Chairman of the Saints F C is to be contacted to see if he and his committee would welcome this idea possibly coupled with a 'photoshoot' showing the handover of the garlic.

The Bedfordshire & River Ivel Drainage Board are to be contacted about one tree appears to be growing in the river and another tree that has fallen over and is collecting debris. Both are in the area of the disused River Ivel Navigation Channel.

It was noted that the pillar on the Maltings is not fully seated on it's plinth. This has been previously noted at which time an appropriate letter was sent to the Conservation Department of the District Council.

The cover over the stop-cock in the area of Ivel Road and Ivel Close has broken and is not properly seated on it's mounting.

Anglian Water to be contacted again about a water leak in the Priory Gate area which is having an adverse effect on the pavement and causing pedestrians to walk on the highway.

The situation regarding the removal of the kissing gate at the point of entry into the nearby woods was referred to the next Services and Maintenance Committee meeting as access has now become difficult for the disabled and people with push chairs.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.
